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Ref. No.: 12439-0176

N. Kenneth Burraston

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/715,683
Applicant : Mathieu et al.
Filed : November 17, 2003
TC/A.U. : 2839
Examiner : Neil Abrams
Docket No. : P75D1-US

Confirmation No. 7298

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To Whom It May Concern:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s). Applicants ask that the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be initialed and returned in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

COMMONLY OWNED, RELATED U.S. PATENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Applicants note that citation numbers 1, 8, 12, 14, 15, 17-19, 22, 23, and 24 in the attached listing are U.S. patents or applications that are commonly owned with the above-identified patent application and may contain subject matter that is related to the subject matter of the above-identified patent application. The Examiner's attention is therefore directed to the prosecution history of the foregoing related U.S. patent(s) and patent application(s) and prior art cited in these patent(s) and patent application(s); Applicants assume the Examiner has access to all of the prosecution history, including the cited prior art, of these patents(s) and patent application(s), but Applicants will provide copies of all or any part of the prosecution history of or prior art from any of these patent(s) or patent application(s) upon request.

COPIES NOT PROVIDED

A copy of citation numbers 25-30 is not provided because each listed document was cited in the parent application US Serial No. 09/473,414. See 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

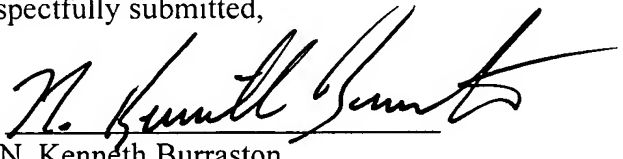
- ☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):
- ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)); or
 - ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage; or
 - ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits; or
 - ☐ It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.
- ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed three months after the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application and the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:
- ☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
 - ☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:
- a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**
 - a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

Fee:

- ☐ No fee is due.
- ☒ A check that includes \$180.00 for the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.
- ☐ This statement is filed as one part of a multi-part submission. The fee for the complete submission was included in an electronically filed submission on __. Applicants request the foregoing fee be accepted for this statement. (See OG Notice dated 17 September 2002.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 27, 2005

By 
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Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/715,683
Filing Date	November 17, 2003
First Named Inventor	Mathieu et al.
Group Art Unit	2839
Examiner Name	Neil Abrams
Attorney Docket No.	P75D1-US

Sheet 1 of 2

U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publ./Issue Date	Related [#]	Copy Enclosed
		Number	Kind Code ²				
	1.	2004/0038560		Mathieu et al.	2/26/2004	x	No ^{***}
	2.	3781683		Freed	12/25/1973		No ^{***}
	3.	3849872		Hubacher	11/26/1974		No ^{***}
	4.	4418857		Ainslie et al.	12/6/1983		No ^{***}
	5.	4553192		Babuka et al.	11/12/1985		No ^{***}
	6.	5307311		Silwa Jr.	4/26/1994		No ^{***}
	7.	5442282		Rostoker et al.	8/15/1995		No ^{***}
	8.	5476211		Khandros	12/19/1995	x	No ^{***}
	9.	5506499		Puar	4/9/1996		No ^{***}
	10.	5613861		Smith et al.	3/25/1997		No ^{***}
	11.	5665648		Little	9/9/1997		No ^{***}
	12.	5772451		Dozier, II et al.	6/30/1998	x	No ^{***}
	13.	5810609		Faraci et al.	9/22/1998		No ^{***}
	14.	5829128		Eldridge et al.	11/3/1998	x	No ^{***}
	15.	5832601		Eldridge et al.	11/10/1998	x	No ^{***}
	16.	5848685		Smith et al.	12/15/1998		No ^{***}
	17.	5917707		Khandros et al.	6/29/1999	x	No ^{***}
	18.	6029344		Khandros et al.	2/29/2000	x	No ^{***}
	19.	6150186		Chen et al.	11/21/2000	x	No ^{***}
	20.	6183267		Marcus et al.	2/6/2001		No ^{***}
	21.	6245444		Marcus et al.	6/29/2001		No ^{***}
	22.	6640432		Mathieu et al.	11/4/2003	x	No ^{***}
	23.	6827584		Mathieu et al.	12/7/2004	x	No ^{***}

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

** Reference cited in parent application US Serial No. 09/473,414. 37 CFR § 1.98(d)

*** Pre-OG Notice By Deputy Commissioner Stephen G. Kunin dated July 11, 2003 waiving the requirement to file copies of US patent publications in applications filed after June 30, 2003.

& Notice dated October 19, 2004 by Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy waiving requirement to file copies of pending US patent applications if the applications are stored in the USPTO's IFW system.

Commonly owned US patent or application whose subject matter may be related to the subject matter of the instance patent application.

Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>		
				Application Number	10/715,683	
				Filing Date	November 17, 2003	
				First Named Inventor	Mathieu et al.	
				Group Art Unit	2839	
Examiner Name	Neil Abrams					
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	P75D1-US	

U.S. UNPUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Serial No.	Name of Applicant	Filing Date	Related [#]	Copy Enclosed
	24.	09/547,561	Mathieu et al.	4/12/2000	x	Yes

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publ. Date	T ⁶	Copy Enclosed
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
	25.	DE	3604021			8/21/1986		No ^{**}
	26.	JP	4-240570		Inoue	8/27/1992	x	No ^{**}
	27.	JP	9-213183		Takahashi	8/15/1997	x	No ^{**}
	28.	WO	98/52224		Pedersen et al.	11/19/1998		No ^{**}
	29.	WO	97/44676		Khandros et al.	11/27/1997		No ^{**}

OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²	Copy Enclosed
	30.	WEAST, "Handbook Of Chemistry And Physics," pp. D-171 and D-172 (CRC Press)		No**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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